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In the UNITED STATES PATENT and TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Baxter, et al.	EXAMINER: Evans, Charesse
SERIAL NO.: 09/973,105	ART UNIT: 1615
FILING DATE: October 9, 2001	DOCKET NO.: 6815.US.01
TITLE: <b>METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR PROVIDING GLUTAMINE</b>	I certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on the date shown below.  <i>Wendy Detwiler</i> 7-18-03 Wendy Detwiler Date

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed April 23, 2003 the Examiner restricts the invention to two groups: Group I is claims 1- 6 drawn to a method for providing glutamine supplementation and Group II is claims 7-43 drawn to a composition. Applicants hereby elect group I with traverse. The Applicant will file the withdrawn claims in a divisional of the above referenced application.

The Examiner further requests that the Applicant select a single disclosed species from claim 6 or submit evidence showing that the species are obvious variants and not patentably distinct. The Applicant has amended claim 6 to include gastrointestinal surgery, gastrointestinal resection, small bowel transplant, post surgical trauma, short bowel syndrome, Crohn's disease, prematurity of the gut, gut deterioration associated with particular treatments and combinations thereof. Each of these conditions is a result of the gut receiving an insult and are not patentably distinct.

Early examination and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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